SUNY Cortland Men’s Lacrosse

SUNYAC Semifinals
SUNY Cortland vs. SUNY Potsdam
Wednesday, May 5, 2004; SUNY Cortland Stadium Complex; Cortland, N.Y.

FINAL SCORE: Cortland 13, Potsdam 6

CORTLAND, N.Y. – Sophomore Kyle Lambert (Brentwood) scored five goals and junior Adam Hughes (North Syracuse/Cicero-North Syracuse) added three goals and an assist as nationally second-ranked Cortland defeated Potsdam, 13-6, in the SUNYAC semifinals under the lights at the SUNY Cortland Stadium Complex. Cortland (14-1) will host Geneseo, a 13-7 semifinal winner at home over Oneonta, in the league championship game on Saturday. The official game time will be announced Thursday, but it will most likely be a 7 p.m. start.

Potsdam (4-10) stayed close through the first three quarters, primarily due to the play of junior goalie Ryan Hanretty (Williamsville/Williamsville South). Hanretty made 23 saves in the contest, including 10 in the first quarter and 15 by halftime. Senior Chris Minei (Rochester/Fairport) led the Bears with two goals and two assists and senior Raweras Mitchell (Akwesasne/Mohawk Nation) scored twice.

Potsdam took a 1-0 lead on a Mitchell goal, assisted by Minei, 1:06 into the game. Cortland, which has won 13 straight games, scored the next four goals, starting with Lambert's goal off a Matt O'Connell (Camillus/West Genesee) assist with 7:49 left in the quarter. Senior Andrew Roth (Ridgewood, NJ/Don Bosco Prep) scored at the 6:59 mark, Hughes connected at 4:58 with Michael Bryant (Hamburg/Frontier Central) assisting, and Lambert scored an extra-man goal with 2:46 left. Potsdam closed to within 4-2 on Evan Cree's (Akwesasne/Salmon River) goal with 1:24 left. The Bears were outshot 19-3 in the first quarter, but scored on two of their shots.

The guests kept Cortland off the scoreboard the entire second quarter, and Minei's goal with 2:25 remaining before halftime drew the Bears within 4-3. Lambert, however, scored all three of the Red Dragons' goals in the third quarter, the last with 44 seconds remaining, to give Cortland a 7-4 lead with a quarter remaining. Cortland scored the first three goals of the fourth quarter – tallies by Hughes, Roth and freshman Ryan Simensky (Locust Valley) – to extend its lead to 10-4 with 8:37 left.

Potsdam got a goal from Harrison Rogers (Grand Island) goal with 7:24 left. Cortland junior defenseman Dan Mendelson (Farmingdale) scored his first goal of the season with 3:01 remaining, and Hughes and senior Drew Hyatt (Jamesville/Jamesville-DeWitt) also scored in the final 2:49, sandwiched around a Potsdam goal by Minei.

Cortland sophomore goalie Ben Gaebel (Deferiet/Carthage) made eight saves for the victory. Cortland outshot Potsdam, 56-26, and picked up 44 ground balls to Potsdam's 30. Lambert finished with eight ground balls and freshman Cheney Raymond (Camillus/West Genesee) six and senior Andrew Pultz (Farmingdale) won 9-of-13 faceoffs. Cree had six ground balls for Potsdam, which lost 15-9 in the SUNYAC semifinals at Cortland last season.

(Game summary on next page)
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Scoring (Goals-Assists):
Potsdam: Chris Minei 2-2, Raweras Mitchell 2-0, Harrison Rogers 1-1, Even Cree 1-0, Rob Peters 0-1
Cortland: Kyle Lambert 5-0, Adam Hughes 3-1, Andrew Roth 2-0, Drew Hyatt 1-2, Ryan Simensky 1-1, Dan Mendelson 1-0, Matt O'Connell 0-1, Michael Bryant 0-1, Blake Gale 0-1, Bill Gleason 0-1

Goalkeepers:
Potsdam: Ryan Hanretty, 23 saves, 13 GA in 60:00
Cortland: Ben Gaebel, 8 saves, 6 GA in 60:00

Shots: Cortland 56, Potsdam 26
Ground Balls: Cortland 44, Potsdam 30
Clears: Cortland 17-of-19, Potsdam 15-of-24
Faceoffs Won: Cortland 13, Potsdam 9
Penalties: Cortland 1 for 0:30, Potsdam 3 for 3:00
Extra-Man Offense: Cortland 1-3, Potsdam 0-1